

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 39

2 **49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Timothy M. Keller

5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE STATE FAIR COMMISSION TO DETERMINE THE  
12 FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING AN ASIAN AMERICAN  
13 CENTER FOR CULTURAL AND MULTIPLE PURPOSES AT THE NEW MEXICO  
14 STATE FAIRGROUNDS.

15  
16 WHEREAS, Asian Americans in New Mexico comprise nearly  
17 thirty thousand residents and contribute greatly to the  
18 cultural, economic and intellectual achievements of New  
19 Mexico's society; and

20 WHEREAS, the largest projected population growth by  
21 percentage is expected for Asian residents, estimated to  
22 increase by nearly four percent per year, until 2016; and

23 WHEREAS, Asian Americans live and work throughout New  
24 Mexico and are an integral part of New Mexico's cultural mix;  
25 and

.176416.2

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

underscoring material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1           WHEREAS, Asian Americans have established strong  
2 communities in New Mexico with rich and varied traditions,  
3 particularly in Albuquerque near the fairgrounds, where a  
4 concentration of Asian restaurants and shops exists; and

5           WHEREAS, the New Mexico state fairgrounds boasts three  
6 ethnic complexes, villa Hispana, Indian village and the Hoppes  
7 African American pavilion; and

8           WHEREAS, the New Mexico state fairgrounds has five art  
9 galleries totaling approximately fifty-five thousand square  
10 feet: the creative arts; Hispanic arts; fine arts; school  
11 arts; and Indian arts; and

12           WHEREAS, the New Mexico state fairgrounds also hosts the  
13 African American performing arts center and exhibit hall; and

14           WHEREAS, the New Mexico state fairgrounds has a total of  
15 approximately sixty-eight thousand square feet of exhibition  
16 space, excluding the art galleries; and

17           WHEREAS, an Asian American center would honor, celebrate  
18 and teach the significant achievements, sacrifices and  
19 contributions of Asian Americans in New Mexico and the United  
20 States; and

21           WHEREAS, an Asian American center will contribute to the  
22 acclaim of the New Mexico state fairgrounds for its art  
23 galleries and ethnic complexes; and

24           WHEREAS, an Asian American center will generate additional  
25 interest and bring visitors to the New Mexico state

.176416.2

underscoring material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

fairgrounds;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state fair commission be requested to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of establishing and maintaining an Asian American center, which can be used year-round for multiple purposes, and present its findings to the appropriate interim legislative committee no later than November 2009; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the state fair commission.